HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DRAFT FY 2008 INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION CONFERENCE REPORT

The Intelligence Authorization for FY 2008 authorizes funding for intelligence operations and activities, and personnel levels for the 16 elements of the Intelligence Community (IC). In addition, it does the following:

Enhances the Oversight and Effective Management of the IC by

- Creating statutory, Senate confirmed IC Inspector General (IG) with the authority to inspect, audit and investigate activities across the IC
- Requiring Senate confirmation for Directors of the NSA and NRO
- Requiring report on compliance with the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005 and related provisions of the Military Commissions Act of 2006 regarding detentions and interrogations and DOJ legal opinions related to these activities
- Mandating CIA IG audits of all covert action programs every three years
- Requiring reports to Congress on the nuclear programs of Iran and North Korea
- Prohibiting implementation of pay for performance until plans are delivered to Congress
- Requiring guidelines for the implementation of an IC multilevel security clearance approach to increase linguistic and cultural expertise
- Designating DIA, NRO and NSA IGs official designees of DoD IG
- Requiring a comprehensive listing of all special access programs
- Reviving the Commission to review the status of Research and Development in the IC

Encourages IC Management Accountability and Efficiency in personnel management; use of contractors; workforce diversity; foreign language proficiency; protecting intelligence officer and agents identities; vulnerability assessments of major systems; space intelligence management; business enterprise architecture; major systems acquisition; excessive cost growth of major systems; implementing data efficiency report recommendations; and management of aerial reconnaissance platforms

Enhances Director of National Intelligence (DNI) Management Authority and Flexibility by authorizing DNI to establish, and fund boards and commissions; fund information sharing initiatives across federal government; conduct accountability reviews; adjust compensation for critical positions; and delegate DNI authorities to protect sources and methods to the Chief Information Officer

Authorizes Funds to Improve Effectiveness of Intelligence Programs and Activities

For the first time, this Intelligence Authorization conference report authorizes the IC base budget and a full year of supplemental funding for Iraq and counterterrorism activities.* It also:

- Reduces duplication between the base and supplemental
- Moves some core activities from the supplemental into the base

- Withholds a significant amount of supplemental funding related to the Administration as recently-announced Cyber Initiative pending further investigation by the Congress into its legal and technical underpinnings
- Adds significant additional funding for Advanced Research and Development funding to help the Intelligence Community maintain its technical edge, and include funds to pursue research into Global Climate change
- Reduces funds for non-productive intelligence activities in Iraq
- Fully funds activities to accelerate key global counterterrorism activities
- Funds accelerated integration of ground processing and exploitation of imagery collected from commercial and national sensors
- Funds initiatives to repair and replace aging and inadequate power infrastructure
- Adds funds to improve training and education of linguists, analysts and Human Intelligence collectors
- Reduces excessive levels of funding for contractors, and requires reporting on the numbers and functions of contractors
- Provides full funding for the operations of the National Drug Intelligence Center

In addition, the conference report includes provisions that:

- Extend to DNI exemptions currently held by CIA including Operational Files, Privacy Act, and Federal Advisory Act exemptions
- Provide CIA and NSA protective officers arrest authorities in the performance and furtherance of their protective duties
- Clarify that CIA is no longer required to report to Congress on steps taken to ensure financial statements can be audited to reflect that CIA has now submitted audited financial statements to OMB in compliance with the law
- Repeal select reporting requirements that are duplicative or no longer useful
- Clarify authorities of DNI Director of Science and Technology
- Allow delegation of authority to travel on non-US common carriers
- Extend the authority to delete information about foreign gifts
- Clarify prohibition on co-location of DNIs office
- Give DNI membership on Transportation Security Board
- Modify the NSA scholarship program to allow NSA not to reveal that IC is funding scholarship
- Clarify NGA analysis and dissemination authorities
- Grant NSA flexibility in granting security clearance authorities for limited time
- Require report on granting retirement benefits to Air America employees
- Clarify that select elements of the Coast Guard and DEA are part of the IC

^{*}Please note that actual funding levels for the Intelligence Authorization are contained in the classified schedule of authorizations and annex which will be available for member review after conference report is filed.